

REMARKS

Claims 5-7 are currently pending in the application. Claims 5-7 are the only claims and are in independent form. Claims 1-4 have been canceled without prejudice from the present application in order to expedite the allowance of the present application.

Claim 4 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Since claim 4 has been canceled without prejudice from the present application, this rejection has been rendered moot.

Claim 5 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for being indefinite. In response thereto, claim 5 has been amended to recite the term "step." Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Komiya, et al. reference. Additionally, claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Chemical Abstracts reference. Finally, claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,183,545 to Okuhama, et al. Since claims 1-4 have been canceled without prejudice from the present application, the above anticipation rejections have been rendered moot.

It is respectfully submitted that the present amendment places the application in condition for allowance as it removes all remaining issues in dispute. Specifically, the amendment follows suggestions set forth in the Office Action and clarifies the present invention. As a result, no remaining issues are in dispute. Since there is no prior art cited against any of these claims, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are in condition for allowance. It is also respectfully submitted that the present amendment places the application in condition for appeal. The claims have not been made broader in scope, thereby requiring no further searching nor raise any new issues. In fact, all claims now include limitations of previously pending claims and were therefore previously searched.

In summary, the present application is in condition for allowance, which allowance is respectfully requested. Applicants respectfully request to be contacted by telephone at (248) 539-5050 if any remaining issues exist.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee or credit any overpayment in connection with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 11-1449.

Respectfully submitted,

KOHN & ASSOCIATES, PLLC



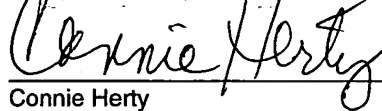
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Dated: August 15, 2005

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Connie Herty